

TSA-2003-14610

After reading the upcoming "terrorist scrutinising" for CDL drivers holding Haz Mat certification and endorsement, I have some thoughts.

First off: this is a great and unique opportunity for the trucking industry to make a controlling impact. If O.O.I.D.A. and other truck related entities are smart, they will recommend all drivers currently holding Haz Mat endorsement to immediately remove them from their license.

If you believe that the government will move forward with this cumbersome and, as yet undefined method of individual response, without severely screwing up thousands of people's lives, you are STUPID, STUPID, STUPID !!!

Since the 911 attack I have predicted that the criminal justice system would evolve to include all crimes as acts of terrorism. This is a classic example of that evolution. Interesting that this move would choose to target truck drivers as the most blatant attempt to introduce this new system of justice.

Secondly: I actually laughed at TSA's promise to abide by "privacy laws". What a joke! There will be nothing private regarding this. Do you really believe you can inform your employer that you simply failed a background check and can no longer transport Haz Mat cargo, and your employer NOT be suspicious and demand a explanation?! Are you really naive enough to think you won't loose your job? And after years of severe abuse by carriers in utilizing the DAC system, do you honestly think a driver won't have all these details of a background check failure recorded on his/her DAC file?! Please, pinch yourself and come back to reality!

Ironically the one item not mentioned is unpaid child support. This alone will produce thousands of "failed" background checks!

Ever since the regulation of Haz Mat was created, drivers have been severely abused if for no other reason than lack of compensation. Do drivers receive extra compensation to transport Haz Mat ? Of course not!!! Yet no carrier is paid less than \$2.00 a mile for every load!!! The driver takes all the risk and is given no benefit. So, naturally, we are just going to accept this new "government terrorism" with a "yawn" and a "oh well" and keep doing our best. Yeah! Right!

Raymond Bell
1410 Bunea Vista Blvd. SE
Roanoke, Va. 24013
540-345-6357
raymondralin@aol.com